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Attorney Docket No. B45201

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: D'Hondt, et al.
Int'l. App. No.: PCT/EP00/09509
Int'l. Filing Date: 27 September 2000
For: NOVEL COMPOSITION

20 March 2002

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Examiner: Unknown

Box PCT
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Preliminary to the examination of this application, applicants respectfully request amendment of the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-25.

Please add new claims 26-50.

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B1 27 26. A monovalent influenza vaccine composition comprising an influenza virus component which is a low dose of egg-derived influenza virus antigen from an influenza virus strain that is associated with a pandemic outbreak, or has the potential to be associated with a pandemic outbreak, in combination with a suitable adjuvant, wherein the low antigen dose is less than 15 µg of haemagglutinin per dose or no more than 15 µg per combined dose of vaccine.

28 27. A vaccine composition according to claim 26 wherein the influenza virus antigen is in the form of purified whole influenza virus.

29 28. A vaccine composition according to claim 27 where the adjuvant is an aluminium salt or salts.

30 29. A vaccine composition according to claim 28 wherein the adjuvant is aluminium hydroxide and aluminium phosphate.